ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Ed Smith
A J Smith

SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL
SESSION

...OF THE...

BIRMINGHAM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

SPRINGVILLE, ALABAMA
...1898...

NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD WITH
BAPTIST CHURCH, MT. PINSON, ALA.
SEPTEMBER, 1899.

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Birmingham Baptist Association

HELD WITH

BAPTIST CHURCH AT SPRINGVILLE, ALA.

SEPT. 6, 7 AND 8, 1898.

THE NEXT SESSION OF THE ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD WITH THE BAPTIST CHURCH AT MT. PINSON, ALA., COMMENCING ON FRIDAY, BEFORE THE THIRD SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER, 1898, AT 10 O'CLOCK, A. M.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
DISPATCH PRINTING CO., PRINTERS AND BINDERS
1898.

OFFICERS.

MODERATOR:

PROF. R. J. WALDROP, EAST LAKE, ALA.

CLERK AND TREASURER:

ELDER M. M. WOOD, EAST LAKE, ALA.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

MR. S. P. FOWLKES, BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

AUDITORS:

MAJ. JOHN W. JOHNSTON, BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

MR. T. W. GATHRIGHT, BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

STANDING COMMITTES:

STATE MISSIONS:

T. W. Gathright, P. S. Montgomery, W. T. Hodges.

HOME MISSIONS:

W. R. Ivey, O. J. Waldrop, Porter Lewis.

FOREIGN MISSIONS:

George T. Lee, J. M. Rodgers, Newman Huey.

RELIGIOUS LITERATURE AND EDUCATION:

W. A. Hobson, N. B. Williams, W. M. Blackwelder,
P. M. McNeil, L. J. Haley.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS:

T. V. B. Moor, R. H. Hendon. Bryant Waller,

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK:

C. C. Jones, G. Herbert, Brinson McGowan.

MORAL AND SPIRITUAL CONDITIONS:

R. M. Hunter, J. M. Huey, J. M. Pressley.

WAYS AND MEANS:

J. W. Johnston, I. C. Brown, S. P. Fowlkes.

DENOMINATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:

F. M. Roof, J. A. Howard, E. H. Cabaniss.

CHURCH EXTENSION:

A. B. Johnston, J. W. Minor, Gilbert Carter.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Ansley, S. J.. ....East Lake
Ashcraft, Wm.....East Lake
Barksdale, E. J.....Blossburg
Blackwelder, W. M.....Woodlawn
Branham, M. T.....North Birmingham
Browning, W. Y.....Irondale
Carter, W. B.....Birmingham
Champion, J. L.....Irondale
Cooper, B. F.....Irondale
Craig, L. P.....Bessemer
Creel, J. E.....Wilgus
Davidson, A. C.....Birmingham
Dickinson, J. V .....Pratt City
Dorman, H. T.....Gurley's Creek
Faggard, R. D.....Clay
Franklin, D. B.....Sandusky
Gilmer, J. C.....East Lake
Gray, D. B ....Birmingham
Hagler, J. H.....Warrior
Hancock, W. D.....Avondale
Hobson, W. A.....East Lake
Hogan, Jas.....Birmingham
Howard, J. A.....Woodlawn
Huey, J. M.....East Lake
Hunter, R. M .....Avondale
Ivey, W. R .....Bessemer
Kelly, L. C.....North Birmingham
Kent, J. M.....Bessemer
Lee, W. J.....Addville
Lee, G. T.....East Lake
Lloyd, J. R.....Birmingham
Lock, C. A .....East Lake
Logan, A. W.....East Lake
Lowrey, J. G.....Warrior
McKinney, J. L .....Blossburg
Montgomery, P. S.....Springville
Newman, W. B.....Birmingham
Owen, J. A .....Warrior
Pool, J. H.....Birmingham
Powell, G. B.....Partridge
Reed, E. P .....Springville
Rodgers, W. T.....Green Pond
Sanford, T. S.....Birmingham
Waldrop, O. J .....Bessemer
Waldrop, B. M..:.....Huffman
Weatherly, J. H.....East Lake
Williams, N. B.....Birmingham
Wilson, V. A.....Bessemer
Wood, M. M.....East Lake
Wyatt, G. S.....Ayers

PROCEEDINGS.

SPRINGVILLE, ALA., Sept. 6, 1898.

The Birmingham Baptist Association met this day at 10 o'clock A. M., in the meeting house of the Baptist Church, in its sixty-fifth annual session, and was called to order by the former Moderator, Brother R. J. Waldrop.

2. A prayer and praise service was conducted by brother J. C. Gilmer.

3. The enrollment of messengers being next in order, letters from the churches were presented and the names of their messengers enrolled as follows, viz:

Adger—Represented by letter.

Avondale—Represented by letter.

Bellview—Represented by letter.

Bessemer—Elder W. R. Ivey.

Bethany—Jacob Williams and J. T. Pearson.

Birmingham, First—Elder B. D. Gray, Elder N. B. Williams, Capt. A. B. Johnson, Maj. J. W. Johnston, T. W. Gathright, and W. T. Hodges.

Birmingham, South Side—Elder Jas. Hogan.

Birmingham, Second—A. N. Hawkins, W. J. Thomas and J. Y. Radford.

Birmingham, Third—John Eskew and Levi Teal.

Blossburg—Not represented.

Brookside—Not represented.

Canaan—Represented by letter.

Central—J. M. Pressley, J. M. Franklin and R. M. Inzer.

Compton—E. D. Reed.

Compton Hill—T. H. Wildsmith and T. D. Parsons.

Concord—Not represented.

Dolomite--Chas. D. Brown, A. J. Smith, J. E. Parsons.

Elyton—M. P. Lewis.

Green Springs—Not represented.

Irondale—C. M. Dixon and A. J. Herring.

Johns—Not represented.

Mary Lee—Elder J. E. Creel and Jas. Cox.

McElwain—W. E. Mitchell, G. C. Barnes and T. M. Graham.

Mt. Olive—Elder E. P. Reed, Elder J. S. Wyatt and E. S. Newman.

New Prospect—Elder M. M. Wood, W. L. C. Vann, I. S. Moncrief and J. A. Hilliard.

New Castle—T. J. Watson and H. T. Dorman.

Oak Grove—C. M. Rodgers, J. B. McCombs and E. D. McCombs.

Pine Grove—Elder B. M. Waldrop, and John Franklin.

Pleasant Ridge—Elder O. J. Waldrop, J. T. Robertson, Eugene Huey and Newman Huey.

Pratt City—Elder J. V. Dickinson, W. W. Kicker, J. H. Eubank and Prof. P. M. McNeil.

Rocky Ridge—A. B. Roper, and W. M. Minyard.

Ruhama—Elder W. A. Hobson, Elder G. T. Lee, Prof. R. J. Waldrop, Prof. F. M. Roof, T. V. B. Moor, Elder J. M. Huey, Col. I. C. Brown, J. B. Tarrant and Col. H. H. Brown.

Salem—J. H. Haygood, J. G. Rodgers, M. Huges.

Springdale—Elder M. T. Branham, W. H. Carlisle and J. M. Goodson.

Springville—Elder P. S. Montgomery, H. J. Inzer, J. B. Herring, Levi McBryers, and W. R. King.

Trussville—M. K. Vann, D. N. Talley, R. H. Hendon, D. H. Vann and Thos. McDaniel.

Pinson—R. T. James and C. H. Smith.

Warrior—Elder J. G. Lowrey

Williamsburg—Not represented.

Woodlawn—J. B. Gibson and J. T. Hood.

Wylam—Not represented.

4. The election of officers was declared in order, and on motion the rules were suspended and the former Moderator, Brother R. J. Waldrop, was elected by acclamation. By instruction of the body, Brother J. V. Dickinson cast the vote of the Association for M. M. Wood for Clerk and Treasurer, and Brother W. A. Hobson cast the vote of the body for S. P. Fowlks for Corresponding Secretary. By request of the Clerk, Brother Joe Hood was elected Assistant Clerk.

5. An opportunity was given and the following churches applied for membership, viz:

Hebron, from the Cahaba Valley Association; New Bethel, from the Mineral Springs Association, and Shade's Valley, near Oxmoor, Ala., newly constituted. On motion, the applications were referred to a committee consisting of brethren J. G. Lowrey, A. B. Johnston and J. M. Rodgers.

6. Correspondents and representatives reported, on invitation, as follows, viz:

State Board of Missions—Elder W. C. Bledsoe, D. D., Corresponding Secretary of the Board.

Orphans' Home—Elder J. W. Stewart, Superintendent of the Home.

State Board of Ministerial Education—Elder W. A. Hobson, D. D., President of the Board.

Ministerial Institute Board—Elder J. G. Lowrey, member of the Board.

Baptist Young Peoples' Union—Elder B. D. Gray, D. D., Chairman of Executive Committee of Southern B. Y. P. U.

Howard College—Prof. Frank M. Roof, A. M., President of the College.

Judson Female Institute—Elder Robert G. Patrick, D. D., President of the Institute.

Alabama Central Female College—Elder J. H. Curney, member of the Board of Trustees of the College.

Cahaba Valley Association—Elder John A. Glenn.

Union Association—Elder Jas. D. Ray.

The Alabama Baptist—Elder J. A. Howard, State Agent of the Paper.

7. Correspondence returned. On motion of Elder W. R. Ivey, any member of this Association in attendance at the session of any sister association is authorized to represent this body in said association.

8. The Moderator announced the following special committees, viz:

On Finance—T. H. Wildsmith, A. J. Smith and W. W. Kicker.

On Nominations—T. V. B. Moor, J. M. Huey and O. J. Waldrop.

On Documents—J. C. Gilmer, J. Y. Radford and H. L. Shuttlesworth.

9. In the absence of both appointees, the Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder W. R. Ivey upon request the of Association.

On motion, adjourned to 2:30 P. M.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 2:50 P. M., and was led in prayer by Elder G. T. Lee.

10. The Committee on Petitionary Letters (see item 5) reported ready. The report being favorable the names of the messengers were enrolled as follows, viz:

Shades Valley—D. A. Bailey.

New Bethel—L. A. Shuttlesworth, J. M. Smith, W. J. Creel, J. C. Carlisle.

Hebron—J. A. McDanal, L. C. Owen, W. T. Simmons, J. R. Cantrell.

11. A partial report of the Executive Committee was submitted by Brother J. B. Gibson, Chairman as follows, viz:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your Executive Committee beg to report:

That this Association having failed to appoint delegates to represent it in the State Convention, which convened with the Ruhama Baptist Church,

December 15, 1897, the Committee appointed to serve in that capacity the following brethren, viz: J. P. Stiles, T. P. Waller, J. W. Minor, R. J. Waldrop, D. N. Talley, J. L. Hagler, D. D. Jones, S. R. Caffee, F. S. White and A. N. Hawkins.

The Committee employed Bro. F. H Watkins, Missionary Evangelist, for a period of three months, beginning November 1, 1897, and ending January 31, 1898. Compensation for his services was fixed at $50.00 per month. Payments have been made to him as follows, viz:

By the Brookside Baptist Church	$ 15 00
By the Third Baptist Church	10 00
By the Pratt City Baptist Church	75 00
By the Elyton Baptist Church	15 00
By the Woodlawn Baptist Church	15 00
By M. M. Wood, Secretary and Treasurer	5 00
Making a total of	$135 00
Leaving a balance still due of	$ 15 00

which should be paid out of any Mission funds on hand and not otherwise appropriated.

His report is as follows:

Days of service	55
Sermons Delivered	75
Baptized by others in connection with his labors	40
Received by letter	15
Money collected for State Missions	$90 00

The Committee, on January 10, 1898, agreed to give Brother J. E. Creel $8.33⅓ per month for his services as Missionary Pastor at Mary Lee, on condition that the church at that place would give him $5.00 per month. The proposition was accepted, Brother Creel agreeing to preach there every Sunday.

The State Mission Board not being in condition to give substantial co-operation, and the Committee having no funds with which to pay expenses, nothing has been accomplished in the matter of utilizing the ministerial students of Howard College in the Mission work. For a like reason, the Committee did not engage a missionary to take charge of the work in this Association as contemplated in the recommendation adopted at your last session, and it is reported with regret that the work in this, the most important field in the State, has been practically abandoned.

The Committee calls attention to the pressing need for Mission and Church Extension Work at North Avondale, among a people brought in by the different manufacturing establishments at East Birmingham and the new cotton mills at Avondale.

The Committee calls attention to a similar need in the neighborhood of Ensly City, where the new steel plant is being erected, and the bi-product plant will soon be in operation.

The Committee makes the following recommendations:

First, That a committee of members on Church Extension be added to the list of Standing Committees, and that Brother A. B. Johnston, President of the Church Extension Society, organized under the auspices of this Committee, be requested to report the work done by said society.

Second, That all State Mission funds be subject to the order of your Executive Committee until some satisfactory plan has been agreed upon by and between your Committee and the State Mission Board, whereby the work within the bounds of this Association can be resumed.

Third that all monies for State, Home and Foreign Missions, the Orphans' Home and Ministerial Education, be sent by the local church treasurers to the treasurer of the Association, M. M. Wood, Birmingham, Ala., together with a specification of the object for which it is intended.

Fourth, That the treasurer be required to keep a correct account of all monies so sent, and to forward the same without delay to the proper destination.

Fifth, That there be added to the list of standing committees, an auditing committee of two members, whose duty it shall be to examine the books of the treasurer, and perform such other duties as may be referred to it, and report to this body in regular session.

The churches are asked to raise the amounts in Table of Apportionment if possible.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. Gibson,
J. V. Dickinson,
J. W. Minor,
W. A. Hobson,
B. F. Giles,
J. L. Hagler,
W. R. Ivey,
R. M. Hunter,
B. D. Gray,
Committee.

REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT.

CHURCHES	State Missions	Home and Foreign Missions	Ministerial Education	Orphans' Home
Avondale	$ 50 00	$ 75 00	$ 20 00	$ 15 00
Bessemer	80 00	120 00	35 00	20 00
Birmingham, 1st	280 00	420 00	125 00	125 00
Birmingham, 2d	25 00	35 00	10 00	7 50
Birmingham, 3d	8 00	12 00	6 00	4 00
Birmingham, South Side	280 00	420 00	125 00	125 00
Canaan	8 00	12 00	10 00	5 00
Central	8 00	13 00	10 00	5 00
Concord	6 00	9 00	5 00	2 50
Dolomite	25 00	35 00	15 00	10 00
Elyton	25 00	35 00	15 00	10 00
Green Springs	4 00	6 00	5 00	2 50
Johns	2 00	3 00	2 50	1 00
Mt. Olive	4 00	6 00	5 00	2 00
New Prospect	20 00	30 00	10 00	5 00
Oak Grove	8 00	12 00	10 00	5 00
Pratt City	120 00	180 00	25 00	25 00
Pleasant Ridge	10 00	15 00	10 00	5 00
Ruhama	200 00	300 00	100 00	50 00
Salem	10 00	15 00	10 00	5 00
Springville	16 00	24 00	10 00	5 00
Trussville	40 00	60 00	18 00	12 00
Irondale	10 00	15 00	10 00	5 00
Union	8 00	12 00	5 00	2 50
Warrior	40 00	60 00	20 00	15 00
Williamsburg	4 00	6 00	5 00	2 50
Woodlawn	100 00	150 00	36 00	25 00
Brookside	4 00	6 00	3 00	2 00
Coalburg	12 00	18 00	5 00	2 50
Compton	4 00	6 00	4 00	2 00
Rocky Ridge	8 00	12 00	6 00	4 00
Blossburg	4 00	6 00	5 00	2 50
Bellview	4 00	6 00	5 00	2 55
Springdale	4 00	6 00	5 00	2 50
Piney Grove	6 00	9 00	5 00	5 00
McElwain	6 00	9 00	5 00	2 50
Wylam	2 00	3 00	1 00	1 00
Mary Lee	1 00	1 00	50	50
Bethany	1 00	1 00	50	50
New Castle	1 50	3 00	1 00	50
Compton Hill	1 00	1 00	50	50
Hebron	4 00	5 00	2 50	2 00
New Bethel	5 00	6 00	5 00	3 00
Shade's Valley	3 00	3 00	2 50	1 50

The report was discussed by Brethren J. B. Gibson, J. V. Dickinson and A. B. Johnston, and pending the discussion, on motion of Brother Dickinson the report was tabled until the final report of the committee. (See item 35).

12. The report of the Committee on Young Peoples' Work, was called for and submitted by Brother B. D. Gray, as follows, viz:

REPORT ON YOUNG PEOPLES' WORK.

The hope of our denomination in the future depends largely upon the proper development of our young people. They must of necessity, soon be called upon to take the place of their seniors—must soon assume the leadership in pew and pulpit. The special purpose of the young peoples' movement is to help prepare them for this great work. A more thorough knowledge of God's word, a deeper spirituality, a more intense consecration, and a more intelligent method of Christian service, these are some of the ends to be achieved.

The work is steadily growing, and the educational features of the work are full of promise. A forward movement has been undertaken in the State of Alabama by the B. Y. P. U. State Convention. Some of the suggestions adopted by that Convention we would recommend to our churches: First, that all our local unions, as far as possible, adopt and study faithfully the Christian Culture Courses. Second, that officers and members of the local unions be urged to co-operate with the State Executive Committee in establishing unions in neighboring churches where no unions now exist. Fourth, that the members of unions be requested to contribute, through their churches, to the various benevolent enterprises of the denomination.

This work among our young people, seems to your committee, most admirably suited to our village and country churches where the services of the church are less frequent than in the cities where our great Baptist population is found.

Respectfully submitted,

B D. Gray,
O. W. Ward,
J. W. Hargrove.

The report was discussed by Brethren B. D. Gray, G. Herbert and W. A. Hobson, and adopted.

13. Miscellaneous Business being next in order, Elder J. G. Lowrey offered the following amendment to the Constitution, viz:

"*Resolved*, That Article XII. of the Constitution be so amended as to read, and these letters shall be placed in the hands of a Special Committee, who shall carefully read and submit to this Association a digest or synopsis of the important facts contained therein."

Which was unanimously adopted.

14. Brother A. B. Johnston moved that the request of the church at Adger for a letter of dismission from our Association in order to join the Mud Creek Association, be granted, which was carried.

15. Brother A. B. Johnston offered the following resolution which was adopted, viz:

"*Resolved*, That in connection with and immediately succeeding the report of the committee on the letters of the churches, there shall be opportunity given for verbal reports on the condition of their respective churches, by the messengers, and that they be encouraged to make such verbal report."

The hour for adjournment having arrived, the body adjourned to 7:30 P. M.

FIRST DAY—Evening Session.

After a prayer and praise service the Association was called to order by the Moderator at 7:30 P. M.

16. The reports on Missions was called for and read as follows, viz:

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

The position of the State Board of Missions in our system of mission work is by few of the Baptists of Alabama correctly estimated. The object of this report will be to place before this body a plain statement of the objects for which this Board was created and to strive thereby to awaken a deeper interest in its work.

1. To the State Board is committed all the interests of missions in Alabama, including the interests of the Home Mission Board, at Atlanta, and the Foreign Mission Board, at Richmond. The employees of the State Board are careful to look after these several phases of missions, realizing that distinctions between them are only in name, each having in view the same grand purpose, viz: the extension of Master's kingdom among men in obedience to His command. Your committee deem it important that the fact that the State Board has in hand all these interests of missions, be clearly set forth, for a contribution to the support of the State Board is indirectly a contribution to the Home and Foreign Boards. Attention is called to the evi-

dent fact that the prosperity of every phase of the mission work depends upon the prosperity of the State Board. If its policies are vigorously sustained, good results will be seen in every department of our work. Each consecrated man put on the field in Alabama, whether as evangelist, missionary pastor or colporteur, adds one to the number who have at heart every interest of the Master's Kingdom.

2. The State Board is engaged in the following special lines of work:—

First—Evangelical. This means the employment of consecrated men to travel and preach among the churches striving to awaken a deeper interest in the cause of missions at home and abroad, as well as visiting destitute regions and preaching to the lost the peerless Gospel of the blessed God. Of these men there are at present under the employment of the Board Brethren A. J. Preston, Southeast Alabama, W. A. Parker, Sr., in the Southwest, J. W. Sandlin, in the Northeast, and Jos. Shackelford, in the Northern part of the State. The importance of this work can be better appreciated when we remember that out of the 120,000 white Baptists in the State not more than 12,000 are making contributions to missions. To add to the number of regular contributors to the cause is greatly to be desired and must be done if we hope to enlarge the work and to do anything like what ought to be done in Alabama for the advancement of the Master's kingdom.

Second.—Missionary Pastoral Work. The work consists in helping to support pastors at important points that give promise of soon growing into self-sustaining churches. Beyond question the brightest page in the history of the State Board is that page that gives record of the work that has been done in this department of labor. There are more than a score of churches that are now strong and self-supporting that in their early history were sustained by the State Board—indeed, many of them were planted by the Board. But while it is true that a grand work has been done, "there remaineth yet much land to be possessed." Many destitute fields are sounding the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us," but lack of means prevents the Board from responding favorably.

It is proper to say in this connection that the Secretary of the Board gives much of his time to missionary and evangelistic work.

From these very brief statements we can gather some conception of the important work that is being done by our State Board of Missions. That this work commends itself to our hearty sympathy and support is a most evident proposition. Just at this time your committee is in position to know that the Board is sadly in need of funds. The secretary is struggling to pay the indebtedness of the Board to its employees. Some of these have not been paid in the last year. Your committee speaks with authority when it assures this Association that the State Board of Missions was never in so pressing need of help as now; and we would urge the churches that in the very near future they make a special contribution to this work.

SUMMARY OF WORK FOR LAST CONVENTIONAL YEAR.

Number of men employed	17
Days of service	3,536
Miles traveled	23,747
Sermons delivered	1,831
Addresses delivered	533
Churches constituted	5
Persons baptized	335
Sunday Schools organized	8
Ladies' Missionary Societies organized	4
Prayer meetings held	246
Number of churches visited	683
Subscriptions to denominational papers	322
Page of tracts distributed	40,000
Money collected for all missions by missionaries	$4,449.17
Money collected for Orphanage	228.81
Bibles given away	150

Respectfully submitted,

W. M. BLACKWELDER,
Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

The recent war with Spain and the consequent acquisition of new territory in the West India Islands has greatly enlarged the demands upon our Home Mission Board. A great opportunity is presented to the Baptists in this new territory, and we shall need to greatly increase our contributions to this Board.

The following is taken from the last report of the Board of the Southern Baptist Convention:

FINANCIAL.

"The amount raised and expended on the field for Home Missions this year, is $54,251.04 against $45,671.82 last year. There have been collected and expended in building houses of worship this year, $56,385.46 against $51,540 last year, making a total of money raised on the field, $110,636.50 against total raised on the field last year of $97,211.82, an increase of $13,424.68. Total cash received by the Board from all sources has been $86,887.27 against $83,184.31, an increase of $3,702.96."

"In addition to the fifty thousand dollars raised by our Missionaries and expended in building houses of worship on their fields, the Board has invested more than $10,000 in cash in places of worship.

SUMMARY OF WORK.

The summary of work for the past conventional year is as follows:

Missionaries, 467; weeks of labor, 11,407; churches and stations, 1,960; sermons and addresses, 49,306; prayer meetings, 10,359; religious visits,

59,841; baptisms, 4,739; received by letter, 9,509; churches constituted, 103; houses of worship built, 45; houses of worship improved, 68; Sunday schools organized, 297; teachers and pupils, 7,710; bibles and testaments, 4,668; tracts distributed, (pages) 1,580,741."

Your committee would recommend in view of the pressing needs of the Board, that special effort be made to largely increase our contributions for the coming Associational year.

J. V. DICKINSON."

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The last words of our risen and ascending Lord, were: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations."

In direct obedience to this command, Southern Baptists, have through their Foreign Mission Board, opened Missions in six heathen and papal countries, viz: China, Africa, Italy, Brazil, Mexico and Japan.

The promise of Christ, "Lo, I am with you," has been verified in our work. Success has attended the efforts made, and we are encouraged to go forward. The great work which engaged the thought and heart of the World's Redeemer, is taking hold of His people as never before.

The hosts of Israel are just waking up to the great responsibilities upon them, and the doors open to them; and yet we are not doing a tithe of what we ought to do. God requires no impossibilities of His people; and when the door is opened to us, and He says, "Go in and possess the land," it is because we are able." To refuse to enter is to be disloyal to our King. The opportunity to do good, implies the obligation. God is opening the world to the gospel, and He is honoring our nation with the privilege of giving to the nations of earth, not only the best form of government ever enjoyed by any people, but also the great privilege and opportunity of giving to these nations, the pure gospel of the Son of God.

The late war with Spain has opened to us new doors, which should be entered at once. Graver and weightier responsibilities are thus laid open to us.

A once down-troden, priest-ridden, oppressed people, freed from the yoke of bondage and tyranny, by the omnipotent hand of God, through American arms, now appeals to us in stronger and louder tones for the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which makes men free indeed. We cannot close our eyes to these opportunities, or stop our ears to their cry. Having been permitted under the blessing of God to accord to them religious liberty, it now devolves upon us to teach them the right way, and help our fallen brother rise. Let us lift up our eyes and view the fields already white unto the harvest, and as we look let us thrust in the sickle, and reap the golden sheaves for the Master's use.

We have in China, 21 churches, total membership.....1,499
We have in Africa 6 churches, total membership..... 313
We have in Italy 21 churches, total membership..... 481

We have in Mexico 32 churches, total membership.....1,132
We have in Brazil 21 churches, total membership.....1,274
We have in Japan, 1 church, total membership..... 61

We have a total of 102 churches on the foreign field, with 4,760 members, and 92 out stations, where doubtless churches will soon be organized. In conclusion, I quote the closing words of the last report of our Foreign Mission Board. "With grateful hearts we look back over the past. Years ago our fathers laid strong foundations, and we have entered into their labors, when we review seven years—that is, from 1891 to 1898. We find that in 1891 we had 38 main stations, 2,377 members, 361 baptisms, and the contributions from the home churches were $111,600.03. Since 1891 our Missionaries have baptised 4,122 professed believers. This number is much larger than the entire membership in 1891. Surely we have here great cause for gratitude, and great incitement for more vigorous effort. Let us remember that nearly two hundred workers (including Missionaries and native helpers) represent us on foreign fields. God, through them, is leading us on. Let us follow."

It is with profound gratitude to God, that we note that our Foreign Mission Board this year was able to report all debts paid, and $2,975.96 in the treasury, at the late meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. In 1896, our Foreign Board went to the Convention with a debt of $31,900,71. In 1891, with a debt of $13,532,79. This is indeed encouraging, and yet of this sum, Alabama, with a membership of 119,454, gave $5,950.74, and average of 04.9c per member. "How much owest thou my Lord?" The total amount contributed for Foreign Missions last year was $124,249.69. Our Association last year, with a membership of 4,353, reported $446.95 for Foreign Missions. Let earnest prayer rise from all hearts to God for His blessing upon the work.

Respectfully submitted,

J. G. Lowrey,
Chairman.

The reports were discussed by Brethren Dr. W. C. Bledsoe, J. V. Dickinson and J. G. Lowrey.

17. The hour for adjournment having arrived, on motion, Brethren B. D. Gray and J. V. Dickinson were appointed to prepare a report on Religious Literature and Education, and the body adjourned until 9:30 A. M., Wednesday.

SECOND DAY—Morning Session.

18. The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 9:30 A. M., and after prayer, the discussion of the reports on Missions was continued by Brethren Jas. Hagan, A.

B. Johnston, W. R. Ivey, J. A. Glenn, R. H. Hendon, J. G. Lowrey and M. P. Lewis.

19. At this juncture, Rev. Dr. Butt, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was introduced to the Association and invited to a seat in this body.

20. The hour having arrived, the Missionary Sermon was preached according to appointment by Elder J. V. Dickinson. Text: Matt. 28; 18–20. After the sermon a collection for Missions was taken, amounting to $22.74, and the reports on Missions were adopted.

21. The following resolutions were presented by Brother N. B. Williams, and adopted, viz:

"*Resolved*, That we re-affirm our loyalty to the State Mission Board."

"*Resolved*, That it is the conviction of this body, that it is of first importance that the debt of that Board be at once, if possible, attended to by the churches."

"*Resolved*, to this end, That it be recommended that collections be taken before the meeting of the State Convention in November."

Adjourned in order.

SECOND DAY—Afternoon Session.

After a prayer and praise service, conducted by Brother J. M. Huey, the Association was called to order by the Moderator at 2:30 P. M.

22. The report of the Committee on Moral and Spiritual Conditions was called for and read by Brother A. B. Johnston, and after being discussed by Brethren A. B. Johnston, B. D. Gray, J. V. Dickinson, J. A. Howard and J. B. Gibson, the report was recommitted, and Brother B. D. Gray added to the committee. (See item 30).

23. The report on Religious Literature and Education was called for and read by Brother B. D. Gray, as follows, viz:

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE AND EDUCATION.

An antidote for the worthless and harmful literature so prevalent in our day, is a sound religious literature. Never before in the history of the world

has the printing press been so powerful as now. Cities, villages, hamlets, and the rural regions, are being flooded with all kinds of pernicious literature. In the place of all this mischievous stuff we should put sound, wholesome religious literature. Of course, at the head of the list we must put the Bible, that great purifier of the mind and heart. In every home, and for each member of the home, let there be a copy of God's word. The Bible, and the Bible alone is the religion of Baptists. It is our stronghold. When we put the chief honor upon the oracles of God, we may justly expect that He will send His blessings upon our people.

The literature of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tenn., is constantly growing better, and has become a great factor in the development of our people. We most heartily commend it to the support of our churches.

The Alabama Baptist, our denominational organ for the State, is open to brethren for the advocacy of all our work and can be made an ever-increasing factor in the upbuilding of our work. We need it, and it needs us. We recommend it most cordially to our people.

The Birmingham Baptist, the organ of the Birmingham Association, is especially set for the development of Baptist affairs in the bounds of this Association. It in no way conflicts with the State paper, and its low price, only fifty cents, should give it a wide circulation.

We most cordially recommend the circulation of good Baptist books among our people. Our people must become more intelligent, if they enlarge in usefulness.

In educational lines, we have reason for great encouragement. The Judson, at Marion, under the scholarly and vigorous leadership of Dr. Patrick, has removed its burdensome debt and is in a most prosperous condition. To name the Judson is to suggest thoughts of culture, refinement, thoroughness and true womanhood. The prospects for a great attendance for the coming session are first-class. The Central Female College of Tuscaloosa, while not under the control of our State Convention, is in every way worthy of our patronage, furnishing as it does, honest, thorough work, and situated most favorably for the development of a great section of our State.

The Howard College, the pride of all our people, is in better condition than for years past. The teachers are capable and consecrated to their work. They need our hearty support. The Birmingham Association should have a hundred boys in Howard College. We have in the College a great agency for the development of this growing and needy field. Shall we not use it for our good and for God's glory?

Respectfully,

B. D. Gray,
J. V. Dickinson.

On motion of Brother J. V. Dickinson, the following was appended to the report, viz:

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

STATISTICS.

Number of Ministerial Students enrolled	32
Number who boarded in barracks	23
Number who paid full board	6
Number who paid part board	6
Number boarded in full	11
Amount assumed by Board of Ministerial Education	$1,725.50
Amount collected during session	1,025.80
Amount borrowed from bank	999.70

The Board of Ministerial Education, as will be seen from the above statement, is in debt, and the note made in bank will mature before the last of this month. We recommend that a special collection be made in this body for the liquidation of the indebtedness.

Addresses were then made by Dr. R. G. Patrick, President of the Judson Female Institute, Prof. F. M. Roof, President of Howard College, Dr. B. D. Gray, President of the Beard of Trustees Howard College, Rev. J. H. Curry, a Trustee of the Central Female College, and by general consent, the further discussion of the report was postponed to the evening session.

24. The Committee on Nominations submitted its report as follows, viz;

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your committee, beg leave to recommend the following:

The time of next meeting be 10 A. M., on Friday, before the third Sunday in September, 1899. Place, ————————. To preach the Introductory Sermon, Rev. R. M. Hunter; Alternate, Dr. W. A. Hobson. To preach the Missionary Sermon, Dr. D. B. Gray; Alternate, Rev. M. M. Wood. Delegates to the State Convention, R. J. Waldrop, M. M. Wood, J. G. Lowrey, F. M. Roof, J. V. Dickinson, M. T. Branham, P. M. McNeil and G. T. Lee. Delegates to Southern Baptist Convention, W. C. Ward and W. R. Ivey. Executive Committee, J. B. Gibson, J. V. Dickinson, J. W. Minor, W. A. Hobson, R. J. Waldrop, W. R. Ivey, R. M. Hunter, B. D. Gray, A. C. Davidson, J. G. Lowrey, G. T. Lee and James Hogan.

Reopectfully submitted,

T. V. B. MOOR,
J. M. HUEY,
O. J. WALDROP,
Committee.

The report was amended by inserting Salem as the next place of meeting, and then adopted.

25. The Treasurer presented his report, which was received as follows, viz:

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF TREASURER'S REPORT.

Dr.

To Minute funds	$71 80	
To State Mission Funds	79 99	
To Home Mission Funds	32 16	
To Foreign Mission Funds	30 52	
To Educational Funds	10 50	
To Orphans' Home Fund	37 13	
To B. Y. P. U. Funds	18 73	
Total	$280 83	$280 83

Cr.

Paid State Missions	$66 42	
Paid Home Missions	20 33	
Paid Foreign Missions	22 18	
Paid Minutes	71 80	
Paid Ministerial Board of Education	10 50	
Paid Orphans' Home	37 13	
Paid B. Y. P. U. Executive Committee	18 73	
Total	$247 10	$247 10
Balance on hand		$33 73
To Credit State Missions	$13 56	
To Credit Home Missions	11 83	
To Credit Foreign Missions	8 34	
		$33 73

The Treasurer requested that an Auditor be appointed to examine and report on his books. On motion, the Moderator appoited Maj. J. W. Johnston.

26. The Committee on Finance asked leave to report and be released, which was granted. The report is as follows, viz:

Springville, Ala., September 7, 1898.

We, your committee on Finance, beg to report that we have received

For Orphans' Home	$25 00
For State Missions	31 23

For Home Missions	30 16
For Foreign Missions	40 57
For Ministerial Education	27 85
For Minutes	51 16
For Bible and Colportage	3 71
Total	$209 78

We have hereto attached an itemized statement of the different amounts contributed by each church, and for what purpose contributed.

All of the cash has been turned over to the Treasurer, and his receipt attached is a part of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

T. H. Wildsmith,
A. J. Smith,
W. W. Kicker,
Committee.

TREASURER'S RECEIPT.

Received of the Finance Committee of the Birmingham Association, two hundred and nine dollars and seventy-eight cents.

M. M. Wood,
Treasurer Birmingham Association.

27. The Committee on Documents submitted its report, which was adopted as follows, viz:

Your committee begs leave to report that we find nothing not already embraced in the work which should receive our attention. We also recommend that the Committee on Documents be abolished.

J. C. Gilmer,
J. Y. Radford.

On motion, the Association adjourned to 7:30 P. M.

SECOND DAY—Evening Session.

After a prayer and praise service, conducted by the Moderator, the Association was called to order, and the discussion of the reports on Religious Literature and Education (see item 23) was resumed by Dr. W. A. Hobson, president of the Board of Ministerial Education, at the close of which a collection was taken in behalf of the Board to the amount of five dollars and sixty-five cents in cash, and one hundred and thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents in pledges, and the report was adopted.

28. Brother John W. Johnston, Special Auditor, (see item 25) submitted his report as follows, viz:

"I have examined the books of the Treasurer and the report of his Receipts and Disbursements, and find the same correct and sustained by proper vouchers.

The balances remaining in his hands are as stated by him, viz:

State Missions	$13 56
Home Missions	11 83
Foreign Missions	8 34
Total	$33 73

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. JOHNSTON.

September 7, 1898."

29. Brother J. W. Stewart, Superintendent of the Orphans' Home, upon invitation, addressed the Association in the interest of the Institution, and received privately, four dollars and fifty cents.

30. Brother A. B. Johnston re-submitted the report on Moral and Spiritual Conditions, (see item 22) which was adopted without discussion, as follows, viz:

Your Committee on Moral and Spiritual Conditions beg to report that as there is a difference of opinion as to the scope of the duty of the Committee, this report is confined to the moral and spiritual condition of the churches. Your Committee regrets that it cannot report a satisfactory condition, while the churches exert an ameliorating and restraining influence on the more outbreaking sins and corruptions of the worldly minded, it is also true that the vanities, follies, and modes of thought of the world have invaded the churches to such an extent that in many cases it is hard to distinguish a professed Christian from the man who makes no such profession.

As far as outward appearances are concerned, if the fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, and if they that are Christ's, have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts, then it will only take a little introspection to show each one of us how far short of perfection we come, and the reason for our lack of that beneficent influence, we should exert upon the world, is not far to seek. We need a deeper work of grace in our own hearts, and a more complete consecration of our own lives, together with a willingness to do anything in order that we may prove our love to God and man before we can let our light so shine that men will take note of us that we have been with Christ and have learned of Him.

For the committee,

A. B. JOHNSTON,
Chairman.

31. The following resolution was submitted by Brother J. V. Dickinson and unanimously adopted, viz:

"*Resolved*, That we hereby urge all our churches to take collections for State Missions, Orphans' Home and Ministerial Education before the meeting of the Alabama Baptist State Convention in November next, so that these Boards may report no debts at that meeting."

32. On motion of brother T. V. B. Moor, the hour for meeting to-morrow morning was changed from 9:30 to 8:30 A. M.

33. On motion of Brother J. B. Gibson, the Association ordered the collection taken for Missions on yesterday to be all paid to State Missions, and another collection for State Missions was taken amounting to two dollars and fifty-nine cents.

34. By general consent the regular order was suspended, and Brother H. H. Brown submitted the report on Ways and Means, as follows, viz:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

By recommendation of the Executive Committee, this Association, at its last session established a new standing committee, to be known as the Committee on Ways and Means, and its duty was laid down as follows: "It shall be the duty of the Ways and Means Committee to search out the best methods of financiering that may be employed in our religious work."

The duty thus enjoined raises the most important question that now, under existing circumstances, concerns "our religious work," and it is well that the Association has made this one of the subjects to receive special attention at its sittings.

The government established by the "King of Kings," through which "our religious work" is to be accomplished, requires work and money, ("ways and means") and each and every subject of the Kingdom is under a moral and binding obligation to contribute to the support of it. The obligation is personal, purely so, and there are principles which must control the citizens in making their contributions for the support of the government, and these principles are fixed, and they are, together with the plan or mode (we will not say modes) of giving money, plainly and specifically set forth in the Bible, which is the Constitution and laws of the Kingdom. There is not, however, in said Constitution and Laws, any power given to levy a specific tax upon the citizens of the kingdom, nor is there any authority for adopting compulsory methods of collecting what might be considered due from

them, each citizen being personally responsible to the King, and to Him only, for the manner in which he may discharge his duties in the premises.

According to the teachings of the Bible upon the subject of giving money to carry on "our religious work," such gifts should be made solely and purely as offerings to the Lord, and there must be a proper motive. And there must be connected with these offerings: First, Faith.—"By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain." Heb., 11 : 4. Second, Heart consecration and entire freedom of will. "Every man, according as he purposeth in his heart so let him give, not grudgingly, or of necessity, for God loveth a cheerful giver." 2d Cor., 9 : 7. Third, Regularity as to time and reference to ability. "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God has prospered him." 1 Cor., 16: 1. Fourth, Offering in connection with worship. "And Jesus sat over against the treasury and beheld how people cast money into the treasury." Mark, 11 : 41.

Many more proofs of the mode of giving and of the principles which must control the gifts can be found in the Word of God, but time and space forbids me here.

Once the necessary amount of money is regularly secured, the work of expending it should be done in a business-like way, economically, with as little machinery as possible, and looking solely to the best and highest interests of the great cause of saving souls.

Fraternally submitted,

H. H. Brown,
Chairman.

The report was discussed by Brethren H. H. Brown, J. V. Dickinson and W. R. Ivey, and adopted.

The Association adjourned until 8:30 A. M., Thursday.

THIRD DAY—Morning Session.

The Association was called to order at 8:30 A. M., and Brother N. B. Williams led in prayer.

35. The final report of the Executive Committee was read by the Chairman, Brother J. B. Gibson, and inserted in the first report, (see item 7) which was taken from the table and the discussion continued by Brethren J. B. Gibson, W. C. Bledsoe, H. H. Brown, J. V. Dickinson and R. H. Hendon, and adopted.

36. Brother D. N. Talley submitted the report on Sunday Schools, as follows, viz:

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

To Birmingham Baptist Association;

We find upon investigation, that the status of the Sunday School interest is about what it was at last session.

The reported enrollment is about half that of our church membership, which indicates that not more than one-third of our church members attend the Sunday School.

The wide difference between the enrollment and the average attendance indicates also a sad state of affairs, the average attendance being only 58 per cent. of the enrollment. These two facts, revealed by the letters from the churches, call for your most serious consideration.

One of the hinderances to higher and better Sunday School work is the neglect of parents and church members to attend the schools, become members and zealous workers, thereby setting living examples for the young.

If parents were to so enlist, and become interested, there would be less disposition to turn the spiritual welfare of the children over to others; there would be no impassable gulf between parent and child. Often you hear parents say they cannot talk to their children about their salvation. This difference alone rests upon the parent and not the child. Parents have made this great distance; this is contrary to the child's nature, and therefore rests upon the parent. This state of affairs should never exist. When the entire family are members of the Sunday School, the lesson becomes a home topic, or can and is a subject which the entire family can discuss, child with parent and parent with child, and in this way the child soon becomes interested in Sunday School work. The shrewd parent can now begin to impress upon the child the importance of his personal salvation. And if parents will only become members along with the children, forming as you see a kind of partnership with them, lessoning the difference in age and character, giving all the time into the hands of the parents, more and more power for good over the child, and growing themselves in knowledge and grace, living more consecrated lives themselves, (a natural consequence of such lives) all the time making and moulding finer characters in the young, living higher and higher each day, carrying the young higher, leading them into pastures of usefulness, developing into such men and women as the Master would have them, men and women who can and will take the front in Church and State, making as you see, great pillars of strength in the Master's kingdom. I ask, would it not make the humble hearts of christian parents well up in everlasting praise to God, to the founder of Sunday Schools, to the faithful teacher, and to those who influenced them to become Sunday School scholars? The question now arises how are we to enlist the parents and church members? This has been tried time and again in the Sunday School of which I have the honor to belong, and has partly failed. I am persuaded, my brethren, that the pastors of our churches, on their rounds, making pastoral calls, could wield a mighty influence in this direction, speaking to the children in reference to Sunday School work, turning to the mother, impressing upon her the

necessity of her becoming a member along with the children, thereby gaining more and more influence over the child, and impressing upon the mother, that she has and should have much to do with the conversion of her child. I am persuaded that much of the stay-at-home parents would come to naught. Of course, there are families where old age, sickness, and in some instances, distance and bad weather may keep away. Then we would recommend the home department, and with the workings of this department the Sunday School will begin to grow in interest and number, and when the Sunday School takes on this new life, our treasury will also begin to be filled, our entire Sunday School and church grow into a real Missionary Sunday School and Church. By this plan, or some other, you bring our people together oftener, exchange ideas, by great plans, plans that expand our own views, open up avenues of usefulness for good, all school and church working together as one mighty host. Then, and not until then, will we as Christians, begin to live on that higher plan of usefulness that it is our privilege, and duty as well, to live on.

We would suggest, finally for your consideration, that it would be a good thing in the building up of our Sunday School, to make this work more prominent in annual meetings, and as one means to this end, in some way secure the attendance of all Sunday School Superintendents at these meetings, and that these Superintendents be requested to make short talks on their schools.

Respectfully Submitted,

D. N. TALLEY,
Chairman.

The report was discussed by brethren M. K. Vann, M. M. Wood, H. H. Brown and J. B. Gibson, and adopted.

37. There being no reports presented on Denominational Institutions, and the educational institutions having been noticed in other reports, Brother J. V. Dickinson presented the following resolution, which was adopted, viz:

"*Resolved*, That we urgently recommend to the churches composing this body for their hearty support, their prayers and their contributions to the Baptist Orphanage, located at Evergreen, Ala."

38. The following was offered by Brother J. V. Dickinson, and unanimously adopted by a rising vote, viz:

"*Resolved*, That our thanks are hereby tendered this church and the people of Springville and vicinity for their hearty and delightful hospitality, and to the A. G. S. Railroad for reduced rates and special coach."

39. Brother J. V. Dickinson offered the following resolution, which was adopted without opposition, viz:

"*Resolved*, That this Association desires to record its opposition to the liquor traffic and intemperance."

40. Brother J. G. Lowrey moved that "the thanks of this body be tendered the Moderator and Clerks for their very kind and efficient services," which was adopted.

41. The business of the session having been completed, after singing and general handshaking among the messengers, Dr. B. D. Gray led in prayer, and the Moderator declared the body adjourned.

M. M. Wood,
Clerk.

NOTES BY THE CLERK.

Special attention is called to the recommendations in the report of the Executive Committee. Any of the churches desiring to comply with the same can send Money Orders on East Lake, Checks on the banks to me at East Lake, or can deposit money to my credit at the Jefferson County Savings Bank, and write me what it is for. The same will be promply forwarded.

Up to September 19th, the date on which the minutes went to press, no report of the Woman's meeting had been received.

Special attention is called to the Historical Table.

The Assistant-Clerk, Brother Joe Hood, rendered valuable service.

HISTORICAL TABLE.

YEAR	CHURCH	MODERATOR	CLERK	INTRODUCTORY SERMON BY	MISSIONARY SERMON BY
1833	Canaan	Eld. H. Holcombe	A. J. Holcombe	Henry Cox	H. Holcombe
1834	Cahaba	Eld. H. Holcombe	J. B. Ayers		
1835	Roupe's Valley	Eld. H. Holcombe	J. B. Ayers		
1836	Ruhama	Eld. H. Holcombe	J. D. Armstrong		
1837	Bethel	Eld. H. Holcombe	Jesse Seale	H. Holcombe	Jesse Seale
1838	Reunion	H. Cox	H. H. Rockett		
1839	Springville	H. Cox	H. H. Rockett	Jos. Byers	H. Holcombe
1840	Hebron	H. Cox	A. J. Holcombe		
1841	Roupe's Valley	H. Cox	A. J. Holcombe	Jos. Byers	J. Tate
1842	Cahaba	Jos. Byers	John Truss		
1843	Hebron	Jos. Byers	John Truss	Jos. Byers	J. Tate
1844	Liberty	Jos. Byers	A. J. Waldrop	J Tate	J. Byers
1845	Salem	Jacob Tate	A. J. Waldrop	Jas Truss	A. J. Waldrop
1846	Shoal Creek	Jos. Byers	A. J. Waldrop		
1847	Rock Creek	Jos. Byers	A. J. Waldrop		
1848	Ruhama	Jos. Moor	A. J. Waldrop		
1849	Hebron	Jos. Moor	A. J. Waldrop		
1850	Mudd Creek	Jos. Moor	A. J. Waldrop		
1851	Springville	Jos. Moor	A. J. Waldrop	W. C. Harris	J. Byers
1852	Hebron	H. G. Smith	A. J. Waldrop		
1853	Roupe's Valley	H. G. Smith	A. J. Waldrop		
1854	Cahaba	H. G. Smith	A. J. Waldrop		
1855	Rock Creek	H. G. Smith	T. F. Waldrop		
1856	Salem	H. G. Smith	A. J. Waldrop		
1857	Ruhama	A. J. Waldrop	E. E Moor		
1858	Ruhama	A. J. Waldrop	J. A. Baker		
1859	Good Hope	A. J. Waldrop	J. A. Baker		
1860	Central	A. J. Waldrop	John Truss		
1861	Mudd Creek	Jas. Grimes	A. G. Waldrop	H. G. Smith	

1862	Springville	A. J. Waldrop.	John Truss		
1863	Cahaba	A. J. Waldrop	A. C. Thomason		
1864	Roupe's Valley	A. J. Waldrop	A. C. Thomason		
1865	Cahaba	A. J. Waldrop	James Grimes		
1866	Sulphur Springs	A. J. Waldrop	James Grimes		
1867	Ruhama	A. J. Waldrop	James Grimes	James Grimes	W. T. Rodgers
1868	Springville	A. J. Waldrop	N. B. Talley		A. J. Waldrop
1869	Cahaba	A. J. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	James Grimes	A. J. Waldrop
1870	Rock Creek	A. J. Waldrop	James Grimes		
1871	Ruhama	A. J. Waldrop	James Grimes	Wm. M. Davis	J. B. Huckabee
1872	Sulphur Springs	A. J. Waldrop	James Grimes	J. A. McDonald	J. A. Collins
1873	Springville	A. J. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	A. J. Waldrop	J. A. Collins
1874	Good Hope	A. J. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	P. M. Musgrove
1875	New Liberty.	A. J. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	J. H. Weatherly	A. J. Waldrop
1876	Pleasant Ridge	A. J. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	J. H. Weatherly	E. B. Waldrop
1877	Cahaba	A. J. Waldrop	J. H Weatherly	G. T. Lee	T. M. Bailey
1878	Ruhama	A. J. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	N. B. Williams
1879	Springville	A. J. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	A. J. Waldrop	J. H. Hendon
1880	Pleasant Ridge	A. J. Nunnelly	E. B. Waldrop		M. M. Wood
1881	Canaan.	A. J. Nunnelly	E. B. Waldrop	B. S. Thompson	B. F. Hendon
1882					
1883					
1884	Salem	A. J. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	S. Henderson
1885	Ruhama	A. J. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	W. S. Rodgers	J. F. Purser
1886	Springville	W. C. Cleveland	E. B. Waldrop		D. I. Purser
1887	Dolomite	A. J. Waldrop	E. B. Waldrop	D. I. Purser	J. C. Hudson
1888	Pratt City	A. J. Waldrop	R. W. Beck	W. A. Hobson	G. A. Chunn
1889	Ruhama	A. J. Waldrop	R. W. Beck	B. F. Riley	S. Henderson
1890	Bessemer	A. J. Waldrop	R. W. Beck	A. W. McGaha	W. L. Pickard
1891	Trussville	A. J. Waldrop	R. W. Beck	M. M. Wood	P. T. Hale
1892	Warrior	A. J. Waldrop	R. W. Beck	P. T. Hale	A. W. McGaha
1893	Woodlawn	A. J. Waldrop	F. M. Wood	W. A. Hobson	B. F. Giles
1894	New Prospect	A. J. Waldrop	F. M. Wood	B. D. Gray	P. T. Hale
1895	Pratt City	A. J. Waldrop	M. M. Wood	A. B. Johnston	B. D. Gray
1896	Ruhama	R. J. Waldrop	M. M. Wood	M. M. Wood	W. R. Ivey
1897	Irondale	R. J. Waldrop	M. M. Wood	W. A. Hobson	G. T. Lee
1898	Springville	R. J. Waldrop	M. M. Wood	W. R. Ivey	J. V. Dickenson

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF BIRMINGHAM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES	MISSIONS						EDUCATION					HOME EXPENSES				
	State	Home	Foreign	Church Buildings (Not at Home)	Not Designated	Bible & Colportage S. S. Board	Ministerial	College Buildings	B. Y. P. U.	Orphan's Home	Minutes	Pastor's Salary	Repairs and New Buildings	Poor, Fuel, Sunday Schools, etc.	Total	Value of Property
Adger	$ 1 30										$ 1 00		$ 164 55	$ 9 00	$ 175 85	$ 500 00
Avondale	90 00	$ 64 80	$ 27 77				$ 5 00		$12 00	$ 17 00	3 00	$ 677 58	306 54	429 45	1,633 14	3,000 00
Bellview		1 00					1 35				1 75		152 80	11 25	168 15	1,000 00
Bessemer	20 00	74 59	40 41	$ 1 00		$ 3 68				12 60	2 50	1,022 00	45 40	422 72	1,644 00	6,000 00
Bethany											75			80	1 55	250 00
*Birmingham First	39 00	149 45	71 00			†3 00				5 00	5 00	2,200 00	‡4,057 28	1,144 99	7,674 72	12,000 00
Birmingham South Side	109 05	123 98	212 31				115 50		25 00		5 00	1,635 00	1,699 56	1,139 67	5,065 07	45,000 00
Birmingham Second		5 00	12 00							10 19	1 50	400 00	27 00	69 99	525 68	6,000 00
Birmingham Third	12 00	22 00	2 00				2 00				1 50	210 71	46 40	69 24	365 85	1,500 00
Canaan					$ 14 35						1 00	81 00	25 00	20 33	141 68	500 00
Central											1 50	20 00	4 80	11 50	37 80	800 00
Compton											50	25 00		4 00	29 50	300 00
Compton Hill		2 50	2 50								1 00	27 36		25 31	58 67	35 00
Concord																150 00
Dolomite			10 94				15 00				2 00	172 72	280 80	46 61	528 07	800 00
Elyton					18 25						2 00	232 04	54 13	79 51	385 93	1,500 00
Irondale	2 54		2 50								1 35	90 20	3 00	12 69	112 28	900 00
Mary Lee											1 00	45 00	66 00	4 50	116 50	
McElwain					15 00		15 50			2 50	1 50	173 70		14 02	322 22	1,000 00
Mt. Olive	1 00	25									1 00	12 50	25 00	2 38	42 13	500 00
New Bethel	3 00	3 00	3 03		1 00		9 58			4 76	2 61	82 25	16 00	45 00	170 23	500 00
New Castle	2 86									3 00	50				6 36	
New Prospect	10 23	3 50	5 15				12 74		2 50	11 38	2 00	110 00	1 25	58 97	217 72	1,000 00
Oak Grove	1 00										1 25	61 50	5 00	1 50	70 25	800 00
Pine Grove	1 15										60	13 00	3 00	5 72	23 47	400 00
Pleasant Ridge	7 00	7 00	6 55				5 00			5 00	2 70	100 00	800 00	23 27	956 52	1,000 00
Pratt City	118 79	32 43	84 65	33 10	160 42		59 22		5 00	25 00	5 00	940 40	757 40	295 44	2,516 85	3,000 00
Rocky Ridge					1 35						1 30	25 00		14 00	41 65	100 00
Ruhama					233 76		13 58	$ 75	10 00	13 58	5 00	1,090 00	482 25	206 17	2,055 09	6,000 00
Salem	1 84						7 50	3 70		9 15	1 00	20 00	2 00	3 66	48 85	500 00
Shades Valley														19 50	19 50	
Springdale	1 50	1 58	1 50								2 00	35 40	41 00	5 00	87 98	400 00
Springville	3 50	1 55	1 55							8 55	1 55		61 00	10 35	88 05	1,000 00
Trussville	8 33	8 33	8 34		114 06						1 80	160 00		111 36	412 22	900 00
Reunion	8 50		3 50							3 50	2 00	76 00		70 89	164 39	1,000 00
Warrior	4 34	5 68	7 36				15 70			12 50	2 00	152 60		84 05	284 23	2,000 00
Woodlawn	48 05	15 00	130 25		110 00	15 00			5 00	15 35	3 00	900 00	300 00	219 89	1,761 54	8,000 00
Collections at Association	25 33						5 65			4 50					35 48	
TOTAL	$520 31	$521 64	$633 31	$34 10	$668 19	$21 68	$283 32	$4 45	$59 50	$163 56	$69 16	$10,790 96	$9,427 16	$4,692 73	$27,890 07	$108,235 00

*These statistics are for eleven months only. †County Sunday School Convention. ‡Paid on old debt.

STATISTICS OF BIRMINGHAM ASSOCIATION. 1898.

CHURCHES	PASTOR	CLERK	CLERK'S POST OFFICE	Membership last Reported	Increase by				Decrease by				Present Membership	SUNDAY SCHOOL				Preaching Sabbaths	Reports Prayer Meeting	Reports Revival
					Baptism	Letter	Voucher	Restoration	Letter	Exclusion	Erasure	Death		Officers and Teachers	Pupils	Superintendent's Name	Post Office Address			
Avondale	R. M. Hunter	Gilbert Carter	Avondale	243	6	28	...	...	21	5	10	...	241	17	125	A. B. Sudduth	Avondale	Each	.....	.....
Bellview	W. T. Rodgers	J. M. Russell	Kimbrell	56	1	3	...	...	5	...	.....	...	55	4	23	Milo Kimbrel	Kimbrel	4th	.....	.....
Bessemer	W. R. Ivey	T. P. Waller	Bessemer	242	6	13	1	...	28	...	.....	6	228	14	88	Bryant Waller	Bessemer	Every	Yes	Yes
Bethany	W. T. Churchwell	J. B. Robertson	Springville	27	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	.....	.....	.....	.....	2d	.....	.....
Birmingham, First	B. D. Gray	J. F. Graham	Birmingham	527	8	56	...	...	50	1	.....	6	534	16	250	L. J. Haley	Birmingham	Every	Yes	.....
Birmingham, S. Side	A. C. Davidson	W. B. Foster	Birmingham	571	33	71	...	2	58	3	.....	3	613	21	276	E. H. Cabaniss	Birmingham	Every	Yes	.....
Birmingham, Sec'd	L. C. Kelly	E. Hill	North Birmingham	84	8	8	...	...	10	5	1	...	84	10	85	J. Y. Radford	North Birmingham	Every	Yes	.....
Birmingham, Third	J. D. Ray	D. J. Childress	Birmingham	44	6	9	...	...	8	...	.....	1	50	8	60	W. T. Angell	Birmingham	Every	Yes	.....
*Blossburg	.....	.....	.....	38	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38	4	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
*Brookside	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Canaan	W. R. Ivey	.....	.....	43	14	5	...	...	5	4	.....	2	51	5	65	W. S. Harrison	Morgan	3d & 4th	Yes	.....
Central	G. W. Lovell	R. M. Inzer	Argo	60	10	3	...	13	10	...	.....	2	74	3	45	R. M. Inzer	Argo	2d	.....	.....
Coalburg	.....	.....	.....	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	4	45	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Compton	E. P. Reed	E. W. Rodgers	Dale	20	1	2	...	6	6	4	.....	...	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	2d	.....	.....
Compton Hill	.....	T. B. Furman	Birmingham	24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	6	33	T. H. Wildsmith	Birmingham	.....	.....	.....
*Concord	.....	.....	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dolomite	W. J. Ray	C. D. Brown	Dolomite	82	63	14	1	1	6	7	7	...	141	8	122	E. A. Harrison	Dolomite	1st & 3d	.....	.....
Elyton	G. T. Lee	D. R. Weaver	Elyton	84	22	15	2	6	17	1	3	2	106	7	85	M. P. Lewis	Birmingham	Every	.....	.....
Green Springs	.....	.....	.....	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34	6	35	T. Colley	Birmingham	.....	.....	.....
†Hebron	W. Y. Browning	J. A. McDanal	Bridgeton	62	.....	2	...	...	2	...	.....	1	61	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Irondale	W. Y. Browning	A. J. McDanal	Irondale	73	2	3	...	...	11	...	.....	...	67	8	47	A. J. McDanal	Irondale	3d	.....	.....
Mary Lee	J. E. Creel	M. W. Staton	Lewisburg	4	.....	16	...	1	8	...	.....	1	12	5	60	Peter Twist	Lewisburg	Every	.....	.....
McElwain	W. Y. Browning	W. B. Baker	Birmingham	25	1	8	...	...	3	...	.....	...	31	7	45	W. B. Baker	Birmingham	2d & 4th	.....	.....
Mt. Olive	G. S. Wyatt	T. P. Moore	Clay	37	5	6	...	...	.....	1	.....	...	47	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
†New Bethel	J. G. Lowrey	J. I. Caddell	Yuna	106	.....	2	...	2	6	3	.....	...	101	6	106	J. I. Caddell	Yuna	4th	.....	.....
New Prospect	M. M. Wood	E. P. Reed	Stubbs	111	3	7	1	...	2	...	.....	1	119	6	56	W. L. C. Vann	Stubbs	2d & 4th	No	Yes
New Castle	J. A. Howard	T. J. Watson	New Castle	9	1	7	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	17	11	60	W. R. Jackson	New Castle	1st	.....	.....
Oak Grove	M. T. Branham	J. B. McCombs	New Castle	94	13	.....	3	...	6	1	.....	...	103	6	35	J. B. McCombs	New Castle	4th	.....	.....
Pine Grove	W. Y. Browning	G. W. Frazier	Huffman	25	5	10	2	...	7	2	.....	...	33	7	60	G. W. Frazier	Huffman	3d	.....	.....
Pleasant Ridge	W. J. Ray	Newman Huey	Bessemer	84	35	15	...	2	11	...	.....	...	125	9	70	B. B. Waldrop	Ressemer	4th	.....	.....
Pratt City	J. V. Dickinson	Pat Felton	Pratt City	304	9	12	...	3	22	1	.....	3	302	16	161	J. W. Minor	Thomas	Every	Yes	Yes
Rocky Ridge	J. M. Huey	M. M. Roper	Trussville	44	.....	59	...	...	30	...	.....	..	73	7	60	J. H. Roper	Trussville	4th	No	Yes
Ruhama	W. A. Hobson	H. H. Brown	East Lake	393	45	.....	...	1	25	...	.....	...	414	14	275	R. J. Waldrop	East Lake	Every	Yes	.....
Salem	J. M. Huey	J. H. Hagood	Pinson	60	15	4	...	...	.....	...	.....	1	78	4	64	W. Franklin	Pinson	3d	.....	.....
†Shades Valley	.....	J. H. Aldridge	.....	.....	10	10	...	...	.....	...	.....	...	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Springdale	M. T. Branham	W. L. Brewer	North Birmingham	58	13	13	...	...	1	1	.....	1	81	6	62	N. H. Erwin	North Birmingham	3d	.....	.....
Springville	P. S. Montgomery	J. B. Herring	Springville	101	6	5	...	...	13	...	.....	5	94	7	80	P. S. Montgomery	Springville	1st & 3d	.....	.....
Trussville	M. M. Wood	D. H. Vann	Stubbs	124	6	.....	...	...	4	...	1	...	125	8	74	R. H. Hendon	Trussville	1st & 3d	No	Yes
Union	W. J. Ray	Robt. Jones	Turpin	70	3	6	...	...	4	3	2	...	70	6	82	W. A. Dunham	Turpin	2d	.....	.....
Warrior	J. G. Lowrey	T. C. Bibb	Warrior	101	.....	2	...	...	6	...	38	...	59	7	89	D. N. Smith	Warrior	3d	.....	.....
*Williamsburg	.....	Wm. Hicks	Porter	29	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Woodlawn	W. M. Blackwelder	F. M. Wood	Woodlawn	329	1	16	...	...	14	...	.....	1	331	19	240	J. B. Gibson	Woodlawn	Every	.....	.....
Wylam	.....	.....	.....	27	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
TOTAL				4504	351	430	10	37	399	42	62	36	4787	292	3093					

*Last Year's Figures. †New Churches.